

**Thomas Jefferson to William Short, April 24, 1792,  
with Copy , from Thomas Jefferson and William Short  
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.  
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**Thomas Jefferson to William Short**

Philadelphia Apr. 24. 1792

Dear Sir

I had sealed my letter before I discovered that I had omitted to desire of you, while at Madrid, to procure if possible some account of the dollars of that country from the earliest to the last, stating their dates, places where coined, weight & fineness. Such a statement, if it can be here in time before the next meeting of Congress (Nov. 1.) to enable them, before we begin our coinage, to place our unit on a proper footing, will be of great & permanent importance. I beg leave therefore to recommend this commission to your earliest attention. Mr. Rittenhouse is appointed Director of the mint. I am with sincere esteem Dear Sir your affectionate friend & servt.,

Th: Jefferson

RC (William Short Papers and FC Jefferson Papers, DLC)